

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4087

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9334

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, AU

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE ON NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES

REF: A) STATE 233134

B) VIENNA 1052, FEB 73

C) VIENNA A-412, AUG 23, 1974

1. PROGRESS IN EMBASSY'S ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM WITH AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT IS IN KEEPING WITH EMBASSY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS AS EXPRESSED REFTELS B AND C, EXCEPT THAT AUSTRIANS THUS FAR HAVE NOT RATIFIED SINGLE CONVENTION NOR PROVIDED ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AND FUNDING NEEDED FOR CENTRAL NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICE AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. ALSO, IN ABSENCE OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION, WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE THE RESIDENT DEA AGENT BELIEVES AUSTRIANS REQUIRE. PRESIDENT FORD MAY WISH TO STRESS TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY, DURING CHANCELLOR'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON NOVEMBER 11-12, HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN OUR INTERNATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM AND TO EXPRESS OUR HOPE THAT AUSTRIA RATIFY THE SINGLE CONVENTION SOON. APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIAL MIGHT ALSO EXPRESS TO

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FINANCE MINISTER ANDROSCH, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY THE

CHANCELLOR, OUR HOPE THAT SUFFICIENT PORTION RECENT INCREASE IN AUSTRIAN BUDGET REQUEST FOR POLICE WILL BE DIRECTED TO ANTI-DRUG EFFORT.

2. I HAVE REVIEWED EMBASSY ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF OUR JOINT ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT, AS DIRECTED IN REF A. IN ALL BUT THE FEW AREAS NOTED BELOW, OUR PROGRESS HAS BEEN IN KEEPING WITH EXPECTATIONS SET FORTH IN OUR UP-DATED NCAP (REF B) AND OUR REPORT OF AUGUST 1974 ON FISCAL YEAR 1976 PROGRAM GUIDANCE (REF C).

3. REF C INCLUDED A STATEMENT OF CURRENT EMBASSY GOALS AND DESCRIBED RECENT AUSTRIAN EFFORTS TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. AUSTRIANS HAVE PROCEEDED WITH TRAINING ACTIVITIES AND IMPROVED THEIR ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES FASTER THAN WE HAVE ANTICIPATED. A THREE-DAY TRAINING SEMINAR WAS HELD IN SALZBURG FOR 91 SPECIALISTS IN DRUG INVESTIGATIONS FROM THE AUSTRIAN POLICE, GENDARMERIE, AND CUSTOMS, AND A CONFERENCE ON NARCOTICS WAS HELD IN SOUTHERN AUSTRIA WITH PARTICIPANTS FROM AUSTRIA, GERMANY, YUGOSLAVIA, AND RUMANIA. THE RESIDENT DEA AGENT PARTICIPATED IN BOTH MEETINGS. AUSTRIANS HAVE RECENTLY ASSISTED IN SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS WITH TURKISH, ITALIAN, YUGOSLAVIAN, AND LEBANESE OFFICIALS, AND HAVE SEIZED INCREASED AMOUNTS OF ILLICIT DRUGS IN AUSTRIA, INCLUDING THE FIRST SIZEABLE QUANTITIES OF HEROIN. THE AUSTRIAN ANTI-DRUG EFFORT HAS BENEFITTED BOTH FROM THE EXPERIENCE GAINED BY ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL AND FROM THE HEIGHTENED PUBLIC AND POLITICAL AWARENESS OF A NARCOTICS TRAFFIC AND NASCENT ABUSE PROBLEM IN AUSTRIA.

4. THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT MOVED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY TO RATIFY THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AS WE WERE ASSURED LAST YEAR THAT IT WOULD. ALSO, RECENT INDICATIONS THAT THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD SOON PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AND FUNDS NEEDED TO STAFF ITS CENTRAL NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICE AND IMPROVE ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES (VIENNA 7933) HAVE NOT MATERIALIZED. HOWEVER, THE NEW AUSTRIAN BUDGET FOR CY 1975 WOULD PROVIDE FUNDS FOR 700 ADDITIONAL POLICE, ALTHOUGH NONE SPECIFICALLY EARMARKED

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FOR ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS.

5. WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO PRESS THE AUSTRIANS AT ALL APPROPRIATE LEVELS BOTH TO RATIFY THE SINGLE CONVENTION AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PERSONNEL AND FUNDS FOR THEIR ANTI-DRUG EFFORT. IN ADDITION, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE PRESIDENT, DURING THE FORTHCOMING NOVEMBER 11-12 VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF CHANCELLOR

KREISKY, TO STRESS TO THE CHANCELLOR HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM. IN THIS REGARD, THE PRESIDENT COULD EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE EXCELLENT COOPERATION AND PROGRESS ATTAINED IN OUR JOINT EFFORT THUS FAR AND MENTION OUR HOPE THAT AUSTRIA WOULD RATIFY THE SINGLE CONVENTION SOON. TO FINANCE MINISTER ANDROSCH, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY CHANCELLOR KREISKY, YOU OR OTHER APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS MIGHT EXPRESS OUR FURTHER HOPE THAT A SUFFICIENT PORTION OF HIS RECENT BUDGETARY REQUEST FOR ADDITION POLICE PERSONNEL WILL BE ALLOCATED TO THE ANTI-DRUG EFFORT.

6. OTHER THAN PERSONNEL, THE MOST SERIOUS DEFICIENCY THE RESIDENT DEA AGENT PERCEIVES IN THE CURRENT AUSTRIAN ENFORCEMENT EFFORT IS A LACK OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT, WHICH WE ARE UNABLE TO REMEDY PENDING APPROVAL BY CONGRESS OF THE INCREASED APPROPRIATION REQUESTED FOR SUCH PURPOSES. HUMES

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